



US005824186A

United States Patent [19]
Smith et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,824,186**
[45] **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 20, 1998**

[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FABRICATING SELF-ASSEMBLING
MICROSTRUCTURES**

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[21] Appl. No.: **485,478**

[22] Filed: **Jun. 7, 1995**

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 169,298, Dec. 17, 1993,
Pat. No. 5,545,291.

[51] **Int. Cl.**⁶ **H01L 21/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **156/655.1; 156/659.11;**
156/633.1; 156/649.1; 216/2; 216/39

[58] **Field of Search** 216/2, 18, 20,
216/33, 39; 156/655.1, 657.1, 662.1, 633.1,
297, 298, 299, 649.1, 659.11

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for assembling microstructures onto a substrate through fluid transport. The microstructures being shaped blocks self-align into recessed regions located on a substrate such that the microstructure becomes integral with the substrate. The improved method includes a step of transferring the shaped blocks into a fluid to create a slurry. Such slurry is then dispensed evenly or circulated over the top surface of a substrate having recessed regions thereon. The microstructure via the shape and fluid tumbles onto the surface of the substrate, self-aligns, and engages into a recessed region.

28 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets

